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Mafic enclaves record syn-eruptive basalt intrusion and mixing

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Abstract

Mafic enclaves hosted by andesite erupted at the Soufrière Hills Volcano between 1995 and 2010 yield insights into syn-eruptive mafic underplating of an andesite magma reservoir, magma mixing and its role in sustaining eruptions that may be widely applicable in volcanic arc settings. The mafic enclaves range in composition from basalt to andesite and are generated from a hybrid thermal boundary layer at the interface between the two magmas, where the basalt quenches against the cooler andesite, and the two magmas mix. We show, using an analytical model, that the enclaves are generated when the hybrid layer, just a few tens of centimetres thick, becomes buoyant and forms plumes which rise up into the andesite. Mafic enclave geochemistry suggests that vapor-saturated basalt was underplated quasi-continuously throughout the first three eruptive phases of the eruption (the end member basalt became more Mg and V-rich over time). The andesite erupted during the final phases of the eruption contained more abundant and larger enclaves, and the enclaves were more extensively hybridised with the andesite, suggesting that at some time during the final few years of the eruption, the intrusion of mafic magma at depth ceased, allowing the hybrid layer to reach a greater thickness, generating larger mafic enclaves. The temporal trends in mafic enclave composition and abundance suggests that basalt recharge and underplating sustained the eruption by the transfer of heat and volatiles across the interface and when the recharge ceased, the eruption waned. Our study has important implications for the petrological monitoring of long-lived arc eruptions.

Keywords: Mafic enclaves, andesite, arc, mixing, eruption triggering

1. Introduction

Andesites are the most common volcanic rock type erupted at convergent margins and are fundamental to the formation and evolution of continental crust (Rudnick, 1995). It is increasingly clear that many intermediate magmas in arcs are hybrids, formed during long residence periods in the crust (Cooper and Kent, 2014) and recharged frequently by mafic magmas (Eichelberger et al., 2000; Reubi and Blundy, 2009). Many intermediate composition magmas erupted in arcs preserve evidence of mingling and mixing with mafic magma shortly prior to eruption in the form of disequilibrium (Nakagawa et al., 2002; Singer et al., 1995; Tepley et al., 1999) or heating textures, diverse isotopic compositions (Davidson and Tepley, 1997; White et al., 2017), the presence of cryptic mafic components (Humphreys et al., 2009b) or macroscopic mafic enclaves (Bacon, 1986; Browne et al., 2006; Clynne, 1999; Martin et al., 2006). It remains unclear, however, whether mafic recharge of reservoirs is in itself a trigger for eruption (Murphy et al., 2000; Tepley et al., 1999; Victoria et al., 2008), or an outcome of unrest and impending eruption (Christopher et al., 2015). Such mingled magmas have been erupted at Mount Unzen, Japan (1991-1995) (Browne et al., 2006), Lassen Peak (Clynne, 1999; Tepley et al., 1999), Augustine volcano, Alaska (2006) (De Angelis et al., 2013; Nakamura, 1995), Arenal, Costa Rica (Reagan et al., 1987) and Soufrière Hills Volcano, Montserrat (Murphy et al., 2000).

Mafic enclaves typically comprise a complex hybrid assemblage of groundmass crystals, residual melt and host magma-derived components, such as “inherited” crystals and melt derived from the host magma (Bacon, 1986; Clynne, 1999; Humphreys et al., 2013; Humphreys et al., 2009b; Plail et al., 2014). Further, host magmas often contain crystals that preserve evidence of their admixture and subsequent ejection from the mafic magma. Thus, suites of cognate enclaves display a range of compositions and textures that reflect variable extents of differentiation of the mafic magma, or the degree of mixing with the host magma and/or changes in end-member magma composition (Bacon, 1986; Browne et al., 2006; Clynne, 1999). While we are making progress in understanding the role of mafic underplating in heating and mobilising magma bodies (Bachmann and Bergantz, 2006; Bergantz et al., 2015; Huber et al., 2011), we lack an overarching understanding of the controls on the nature of mixing with overlying host magmas. It is not known, for example, whether the enclaves reflect quasi-continuous, syn-eruptive mafic underplating, or whether episodes of mafic

intrusion are decoupled from eruptions. Host and mafic enclave compositions may evolve during eruptions; these trends might allow understanding of how magmas mingle and on what timescales and what implications this may have for eruption triggering and sustenance.

There is evidence from a wide range of volcanic systems of magma mixing and mingling between a “host” evolved magma with intruding mafic magma, suggesting this is a common process and integral to the petrogenesis of complex, hybrid andesites. As well as the macroscopic evidence in the form of decimeter-scale mafic enclaves, there is abundant textural and petrological evidence for mixing and mingling. In Soufrière Hills lavas, the presence of plagioclase, pyroxene and oxide microlites, crystal clots, plagioclase phenocrysts with high Fe rims and high K₂O glass derived from the disaggregation of mafic enclaves (Humphreys et al., 2013; Humphreys et al., 2009b), shows that the bulk andesite contains up to 6 % vol. of a ‘cryptic’ mafic component (Humphreys et al., 2013) as well as the 1–12 % vol. in the form of mafic enclaves (Barclay et al., 2010; Komorowski et al., 2010; Mann et al., 2013; Murphy et al., 2000; Plail et al., 2014). In Kanga Island in the Aleutian arc, decreasing andesite bulk SiO₂ concentrations have been correlated with increasing mafic cumulate crystal clots proportions (Brophy, 2009). The 1953-1974 eruption of Trident volcano in Katmai National Park Alaska also shows a decrease in the host dacite bulk SiO₂ over the course of the eruption as the storage region homogenises with mafic magma (Coombs et al., 2000). The host magma erupted at Unzen, Japan during the 1991-5 eruption is calculated to contain between 10 and 25 % mafic magma (Browne et al., 2006), which is a result of multiple mixing events (Vogel et al., 2008). The mixing efficiency may change over the course of an eruption caused by gradual changes in bulk viscosity and temperature of the overlying magma, as demonstrated in the 1915 eruption products of Lassen Peak, USA (Clynne, 1999; Klemetti and Clynne, 2014; Sparks and Marshall, 1986). The degree and style of magma mixing can strongly influence eruptive style, as demonstrated by eruptions at Quizapu, Chile (Ruprecht and Bachmann, 2010). The 1846-47 effusive eruption with geochemical and petrological evidence for magma mixing resulted significant reheating of host magma from 830 to 1000 °C; this mixing enhanced magma degassing, but reduced rapid magma expansion and explosive behaviour. Changing mafic enclave compositions over the lifetime of an eruption, where magma mingling is prevalent, have also been observed during many eruptions, but the significance of this is unclear. At Unzen, Japan, the repeated intrusion of two mafic magmas was inferred from differences in REE and trace elements between two distinct mafic enclave types (Vogel *et al.*, 2008). At Shirataka volcano Japan,

two mafic enclave types are identified on the basis of high and low K₂O over a 200 kyr period (Hirotsu and Ban, 2006).

In this paper we present whole rock major and trace element data and glass major element data for andesites and their mafic enclaves erupted during the 1995-2010 eruption of the Soufrière Hills Volcano (Montserrat, West Indies) (Wadge et al., 2014). This well-studied eruption produced magma mixing and mingling features that are common to many intermediate arc magmas globally. The data are used to infer the petrogenesis of the enclaves and to develop an analytical model to describe the formation of the enclaves from a mixed boundary layer at the interface between mafic magma and overlying andesite. The temporal trends in composition are used to assess whether basalt was intruded in a discrete event at the beginning of the eruption, or quasi-continuously throughout, and whether enclave compositions might be useful for evaluating whether long-lived eruptions may be waning.

1.1 Geological setting

Most of the volcanic centres on Montserrat (West Indies; **Figure 1**) are andesitic, with mafic enclaves ubiquitous in the lava domes and block and ash deposits. South Soufrière Hills Volcano, which abuts Soufrière Hills at the south of the island (**Figure 1**) has erupted magmas of basaltic to basaltic andesite composition (Cassidy et al., 2015; Zellmer et al., 2003a). The recent eruptions of Soufrière Hills included five phases of andesitic dome-forming activity, separated by pauses in lava extrusion (**Table 1**) (Wadge et al., 2014), allowing examination of temporal trends in magma composition. Samples of andesite and mafic enclaves emplaced during phases III, IV and V were collected at locations shown in **Supplementary Table 1**. Data for phases I and II are compiled from the literature (Mann et al., 2013; Murphy et al., 2000; Zellmer et al., 2003a).

Previous work has characterised the andesite and its mafic inclusions. The complex zoning patterns and disparate age histories of plagioclase phenocrysts indicate that the andesite is a hybrid that has undergone multiple cooling and reheating events in the shallow crust for 10³–10⁴ years prior to the current eruption (Zellmer et al., 2003a; Zellmer et al., 2003b). Excess sulfur emissions, mafic enclaves and phenocryst disequilibrium textures (Barclay et al., 1998; Edmonds et al., 2001; Humphreys et al., 2009b; Murphy et al., 2000; Murphy et al., 1998; Sparks et al., 1998) are interpreted as evidence of an intrusion of a hotter, volatile-saturated mafic magma at depth underplating the andesite (Christopher et al., 2010). Remobilisation

and reheating of the crystal-rich andesite has been proposed to have been initialised via ‘convective self-mixing’, ‘gas sparging’ or ‘a defrosting front’ (Bachmann and Bergantz, 2006; Burgisser and Bergantz, 2011; Couch et al., 2001). Diffusion profiles across Fe-Ti oxides in the andesite constrain the timing of the interaction between mafic and andesitic magmas to be days to weeks before eruption (Devine et al., 2003). Seismic “crises” which occurred prior to the onset of the 1995-2011 eruption and in 1933-7 and 1966-7 (Shepherd et al., 1971) have been proposed to have been caused by magma intrusion at depth (Aspinall et al., 1998).

The volume fraction of mafic enclaves in the erupted andesite has increased from ~1% in phase I to ~8-12% in phase V (Barclay et al., 2010; Komorowski et al., 2010; Murphy et al., 2000; Plail et al., 2014), but the causes for this are enigmatic. Substantial quantities of mafic-derived material are also found disaggregated at the crystal-scale within the andesite (Humphreys et al., 2013). Mafic enclaves have become larger with time: 87% of 158 phase I hybrid enclaves observed in the field were under 6 cm in longest dimension (Plail et al., 2014). In phase III, the maximum size for an enclave measured was 14 cm (Barclay et al., 2010). The largest phase V enclave measured to date is 26 cm.

2. Samples and Methods

Samples of lava dome blocks containing mafic enclaves were acquired from block and ash deposits erupted during phases III to V (details of sampling locations and deposit types are given in **Supplementary Material**). Splits of samples were crushed and powdered and blocks were also made into 30 micron thick probe sections. Seventy-four powders from mafic enclave and andesite samples were analysed using X-ray fluorescence (XRF) (details of methods and precision are given in **Supplementary Material**). Glasses in the groundmass of mafic enclaves and andesite samples were analysed using a Cameca 5-spectrometer SX-100 electron probe at the University of Cambridge (details of operating conditions and standards are given in **Supplementary Material**).

3. Results

3.1. Host andesite geochemistry

The andesite lavas from Soufrière Hills Volcano have a narrow range of bulk compositions (58–63 wt % SiO₂), and are highly porphyritic, with 45-55% macrocrysts (Barclay et al., 1998; Devine et al., 1998; Humphreys et al., 2009b; Murphy et al., 2000) (**figure 2**). The

macrocryst assemblage is predominantly plagioclase, hornblende, orthopyroxene and Fe-Ti oxides (ilmenite and magnetite). The groundmass assemblage is plagioclase, orthopyroxene, clinopyroxene and Fe-Ti oxides, with variable amounts of rhyolitic glass (Humphreys et al., 2010; Humphreys et al., 2009b). Soufrière Hills Volcano andesite falls in within the calc-alkaline field (Miyashiro, 1974) (**figure 2**). Major element covariation plots display linear trends (**figure 2**). Matrix glass in the andesite is of rhyolitic composition, with 73–80 wt % SiO₂ (**figure 2**) and variable K₂O, FeO and TiO₂ concentrations (Humphreys et al., 2010). Trace element profiles are shown in **figure 3** and show, in general, enrichments in the large ion lithophile elements (LILE) Rb, K and Ba, and depletions in the high field strength (HFS) elements Ti, Nb and Ta and a trough-like pattern in the MREE to HREE. Covariation plots of trace elements display linear trends (**figure 4**): Dy and Yb increase with increasing La, whereas V, Sr and Sc decrease with increasing La.

3.2. Mafic enclave geochemistry

Mafic enclaves have a diktytaxitic groundmass framework of elongate, randomly-oriented crystals indicative of quench crystallisation (**figure 1**). The groundmass consists of plagioclase, clinopyroxene, amphibole, orthopyroxene and Fe-Ti oxides. Variable amounts of interstitial rhyolitic glass are found within the enclaves. ‘Inherited’ phenocrysts of plagioclase, amphibole and orthopyroxene derived from the andesite are present within the mafic enclaves with sieve textures and morphologies typical of those within the host andesite (Humphreys et al., 2009b; Plail et al., 2014).

The mafic enclaves have a wide range of bulk rock compositions (48–57 wt % SiO₂) (**figure 2**) and they fall in the tholeiite field (Miyashiro, 1974) (**figure 2**). The suites of mafic enclave compositions from all eruptive phases fall on linear arrays (that include the andesite compositions) for the major elements (**Figure 2**). Trace element profiles show, similar to the andesite, LILE enrichment and HFS element depletion (**figure 3**). Overall, the mafic enclave trace element concentrations are more depleted relative to the host andesite in the LILE and some light REE (La to Pr) (**figure 3**), but there is either enrichment in or overlap with the andesite concentrations in middle REE (Nd, Sm, Eu) the heavy REEs (Dy to Lu) and Zr. Covariation plots of trace elements with La are linear, where Dy and Yb increase whereas V, Sr and Sc decrease with increasing La (**Figure 4**). Similar to the andesite, most of the trace elements and in particular elements such as Sm, Y, Yb, V, Sc show displacements in composition between eruptive phases (V and Yb against La are shown in **Figure 4**), with

earlier eruptive phases richer in Dy, Yb and incompatibles and poorer in V, Sc. Correlation coefficient analysis (R, using the `corrcoeff` function; **Supplementary Material**) shows that trace elements across the eruptive phases correlate positively with one other apart from the Fe-Mg-Ca-Al-V-Ti group, which correlate negatively with all other elements.

The glass in the mafic enclaves is rhyolitic (70–79 wt% SiO₂) (**figure 2**) with variable K₂O, FeO, TiO₂, SiO₂, CaO and MgO contents, with considerable overlap between mafic enclave and andesite glass compositions (**Figure 2**) (Humphreys et al., 2010). Some mafic enclave glasses have anomalously low Na₂O and overall, glass in the mafic enclaves has higher TiO₂ (and lower CaO contents) than the glass from the andesite (**Supplementary Material**).

3.3. *Temporal variations in magma composition and petrography*

Although overall the major, trace and rare earth element patterns of mafic enclaves are similar throughout the eruption, there are changes in the composition of the enclaves and, albeit to a lesser extent, the host andesite, through time (**figure 5**). Host andesite major element compositions show minor displacements in FeO_{tot} and MgO at a fixed SiO₂, with andesite erupted in phases I to II more Fe-rich and Mg-poor than phases III and V andesite (Christopher et al., 2014). These changes are manifest most clearly as a change of 0.5 to 1.0 in FeO_{tot}/MgO in both andesite and mafic enclaves at a fixed SiO₂ (**figure 2E**) and in plots of Mg/Fe and V/La with time (**figure 5**). The compositional gap in SiO₂ between the mafic enclaves and the andesite (between 55.5 and 57.5 wt%) observed in phases I-III no longer exists in phase V, with enclave and andesite compositions overlapping (**figure 2**; Plail et al., 2014). The SiO₂ content of the host andesites extends to a higher upper range in phases IV and V than in phase I (**figure 5**). The mean SiO₂ content of the mafic enclaves increases towards the end of the eruption: phase I enclaves have on average 52.4 wt% SiO₂ (with a standard deviation of 2 wt%), compared with a mean of 54.0 wt % SiO₂ for phase V enclaves (with a standard deviation 1.6 wt%). The most evolved phase I enclave has 54.7 wt% SiO₂, whereas the most evolved enclave erupted in phase V has 57.2 wt% SiO₂.

Mafic enclave bulk MgO and FeO compositions (at a fixed SiO₂ content), and to a lesser extent TiO₂ and Al₂O₃, are displaced between phases I to II to III and IV in the mafic enclaves (Barclay *et al.*, 2010) (**figures 2, 5**). Mafic enclaves erupted in phases III and V have systematically higher concentrations of V and Sc and lower concentrations of Y relative to those erupted during phases I and II (**Figure 4, 5**). High field strength elements such as Zr,

Hf, Th and U have relatively constant concentrations in the mafic enclaves through the eruptive phases. There is also no variation in the Ba/La and Th/La ratios of mafic enclaves (**Supplementary Material**). Primitive mantle-normalised REE profiles show steepening from phases I to III to V (**Figure 3**) as LREE/MREE ratios increase from phase I ($\text{La}_\text{N}/\text{Sm}_\text{N}$ 1.0–1.8) to phase 5 ($\text{La}_\text{N}/\text{Sm}_\text{N}$ = 1.5–2.4). In the more differentiated enclaves, the MREE (Sm, Eu, Gd, Tb, Dy) are enriched relative to the andesite in phases I to III, but form co-linear arrays with the andesite in phase V (**Supplementary Material**).

4. Discussion

In summary, the mafic enclaves within the andesite at Soufrière Hills Volcano are basaltic to basaltic andesite in bulk composition, with trace element patterns typical of subduction-related magmas. We show in this section that mixing between a basalt end member and the overlying andesite controls the mafic enclave compositions (**Figures 2-5**). Over time, the end member basalt became slightly more Mg-rich (and Fe-poor) between phases I and III, with associated enrichments in MREE and HREE, suggesting continual recharge of the underplating basaltic layer (as this trend cannot be explained by in situ fractional crystallisation of the basalt beneath the hybrid layer). The geochemical and petrological data are used to develop a model to describe how mafic enclaves form due to the formation of buoyant plumes formed in a hybridised boundary layer at the interface between the two magmas, its thickness controlled by thermal diffusion and magma density. We suggest, based on the temporal changes in abundance and size of the enclaves through the eruption, and the more silica-rich nature of the enclaves erupted in phase V, that basaltic recharge may have ceased sometime after phase III, allowing thickening of the hybridised boundary layer between the magmas by thermal diffusion and generation of larger, more hybridised enclaves.

4.1. *Hybridization between host andesite and intruding mafic magma*

First we demonstrate that the range in mafic enclave compositions is not well explained by fractional crystallisation. We use RhyoliteMELTS (Ghiorso and Gualda, 2015) to construct fractional crystallisation trends for the most primitive mafic enclave composition (at water contents of 4 and 6 wt% (Barclay et al., 1998; Edmonds et al., 2014; Humphreys et al., 2009a), pressure of 150 MPa and $f\text{O}_2$ of QFM and QFM+2 (Devine et al., 1998)(shown on **Figure 2**), similar to the analysis by Cassidy et al., (2015). The geochemical trends in the mafic enclave arrays cannot be produced by fractional crystallisation of a mafic end member

melt (**figure 2**), unless a very high oxidation state is invoked, which is not consistent with petrological constraints (Devine *et al.*, 1998; Murphy *et al.*, 2000). Furthermore, the systematic straight-line trends instead suggest that mixing is the dominant control on the major element geochemistry of the enclaves.

The presence in the mafic enclaves of phenocrysts inherited from the andesite (Murphy *et al.*, 2000; Zellmer *et al.*, 2003a; Barclay *et al.*, 2010; Humphreys *et al.*, 2009; Mann 2010; Plail *et al.*, 2014; Humphreys *et al.*, 2013) is further evidence for physical mixing between the mafic and andesitic magmas, indicating that the mafic enclaves have undergone hybridisation with the andesite. Co-linear trends in major elements between the mafic enclaves and andesite suggest that simple mixing can resolve the range of compositions across the eruptive phases (**Figures 2, 4**), as well as the loss of the compositional gap between the andesite and mafic enclaves in phase V (**Figure 2**). The range in types of mafic enclave erupted in phase V has been explained previously by differing degrees of interaction between a mafic end member and the andesite bulk composition (Plail *et al.*, 2014). “Type A” enclaves are basaltic with a narrow range of compositions (~49–52 wt % SiO₂), and have chilled margins, high-Al amphiboles, a higher glass fraction, high vesicularity and low inherited phenocryst abundance. These are interpreted to be closest in composition to the underplating mafic magma end member composition. The more abundant “type B” enclaves have a broad range of compositions (53–57 wt % SiO₂), and are identified by a lack of chilled margins, a lower glass fraction, low vesicularity and high inherited phenocryst abundance (~25%), and rare to absent high-Al amphiboles; these enclaves are interpreted to have been affected most by mixing with the overlying andesite. As well as type A and B, there are also composite enclaves in andesites erupted during phase V, which comprise a vesicular basaltic core, surrounded by more evolved magma (Plail *et al.*, 2014).

Major element mixing (see **Supplementary Material for calculations**) between the phase V andesite (MVO1538-b) and the mafic magma type A end-member (MT27) show that a high percentage (67%) of andesite magma is required to achieve the most evolved type B mafic enclave composition (MT25). This amount of mixing fits the distributions of most trace elements (**figure 4, mixing lines**), with a Σr^2 of 0.2, with the exception of Sm, Tb, Dy, Ho and Er (**Supplementary Material**). The 2:1 bulk rock mixing ratio is also qualitatively consistent with the observed high percentage of inherited phenocrysts (15–25 %) in the type B enclaves, and undoubtedly also a proportion of rhyolitic melt from the andesite must have been mixed into the mafic magma during phenocryst incorporation.

Systematic variations that may be explained by mixing are also observed in the glass compositions in the enclaves, in particular in K₂O, FeO and TiO₂ content (Humphreys *et al.*, 2010; Devine *et al.* 2014; Humphreys *et al.* 2015). Phase V type A enclave glasses contain high K₂O, TiO₂, and FeO rhyolitic concentrations compared to the type B enclave glass compositions which overlap with the host andesite matrix glasses (Humphreys *et al.*, 2015). Textural observations indicate that, upon intrusion into the andesite, quench-crystallisation of the mafic magma occurred *in situ* involving an assemblage of plagioclase, \pm amphibole, \pm clinopyroxene and magnetite. Using a simple assemblage of plagioclase 80 % and amphibole 20 %, to represent roughly the appropriate modal proportions of a type A enclave diktytaxitic framework assemblage, a rhyolitic melt of ~76 wt% SiO₂ can be generated after ~58 % crystallisation from the phase V mafic end-member composition (from RhyoliteMELTS). Varying the modal proportions of the framework assemblage and substituting clinopyroxene for amphibole, this amount of crystallisation would generate a range of melt compositions (~70–80 wt% SiO₂) that fits the observed range in the enclaves. Although this model is a good fit for SiO₂ it does not resolve the full range of compositional differences in K₂O, TiO₂ and FeO between the enclaves. Instead, the overlap between the enclave and host andesite matrix glasses compositions (**Figure 2**) may be evidence for the mixing of heterogeneous melts during enclave formation at the interface between the two magmas (Laumonier *et al.*, 2014). The andesite matrix glass has also been shown to be highly heterogeneous with respect to K₂O, consistent with mingling of melts, with the variable diffusion kinetics of K and Ti producing a spread in concentrations (Humphreys *et al.*, 2010).

4.2. Temporal changes in composition and abundance of mafic enclaves through the eruption

There are clear changes in enclave geochemistry through the eruption. Displacements in Fe, Mg and V, Yb (and other MREE and HREE) concentrations are observed between enclaves erupted during the different phases (**Figures 2, 4, 5**). There was also a small increase in the andesite temperature between phases I and V by 10 °C, inferred from Fe-Ti oxide geothermometry, (Devine & Rutherford, 2014), consistent with heating by basaltic underplating below.

We have established in the previous section that the colinear trends in the mafic enclaves are the result of mixing. Displacements in elemental composition for a fixed SiO₂ or La composition may be explained by changes in the composition of the end member basalt with

time. In order to explain the enrichment in MgO and V in the end member mafic magma between phases I and III (**figure 5**), we invoke intrusion of slightly more primitive magma with time. This change in end member magma composition between phases I and III is good evidence for sustained and continuous replenishment of the underplating basaltic layer during this time (up to 2008; **figure 5**). The presence of larger and more abundant enclaves in phase V (Barclay et al., 2010; Komorowski et al., 2010) suggests perhaps that a boundary layer between the magmas changed in dimension, thickening and cooling, which would be consistent with the supply of mafic magma having ceased some time after phase III. We will explore this idea further in the next section, where we develop an analytical model.

4.3. *The evolution of the interface between underplating mafic magma and andesite*

The interaction between a cooler evolved andesite above a hot basaltic melt intrusion involves heat transfer from the basalt to andesite. Initially the heat transfer is governed by thermal conduction in both layers, with crystals in the partially crystalline andesite melting, while the cooling basalt gradually crystallises. There is an abundance of evidence in the andesite for heating and partial melting: sieve textures in the plagioclase (Humphreys et al., 2009b; Murphy et al., 2000), resorbed phenocrysts of orthopyroxene (with reversely zoned overgrowths or overgrowths of clinopyroxene) (Humphreys et al., 2009b; Murphy et al., 2000), quartz either strongly resorbed or jacketed by clinopyroxene crystals (Humphreys et al., 2013; Murphy et al., 2000) and hornblende surrounded by thermal reaction rims (Humphreys et al., 2009a; Rutherford and Devine, 2003) are all present. Owing to the different composition and solidus temperatures of the basalt and andesite, the andesite near the interface with the basalt may become fully molten if the basalt is sufficiently hot. In the diffusive boundary layers, the bulk density of the magmas gradually changes. In particular, the bulk density of the andesite typically decreases as the relatively dense mineral phases melt, while the bulk density of the basalt initially increases on cooling and crystallisation. However, if the basalt becomes vapor-saturated then on continued cooling, the basalt will exsolve volatiles, leading to a gradual decrease in the bulk density. Eventually, the basalt may become less dense than the overlying andesite and small plumes of volatile-laden basalt may rise into the andesite. Since the andesite in the thermal boundary layer is hotter than the overlying layer, this layer will become much less viscous through both reduction in the crystal content and also heating of the melt. As a result, the plume rise within the boundary layer will occur more rapidly than the mixing into the overlying cooler layer of andesite, so that the basalt and andesite intermingle only on the scale of the boundary layer.

Subsequently, as the thermal boundary layer becomes deeper, this buoyant intermingled layer may rise up into the main body of andesite, forming hybrid mafic enclaves consisting of a mixture of basalt and the heated andesite from the boundary layer, just as is observed in the geochemical data (**figures 2-4**).

Although the process is a continuum, we present a series of calculations in which we model the temperature evolution of the boundary layer in the limit that thermal conduction governs the heat exchange until the point at which plumes of buoyant basalt, bearing exsolved volatiles, rise up into the heated boundary layer of andesite. We then estimate the thickness of the bulk thermal boundary layer at the point that it can rise into the overlying main body of andesite, which has much higher viscosity than the boundary layer. Although the calculations are simplified they provide some insight into the possible process of intermingling within the local boundary layer, which can occur more quickly than the rise of basaltic enclaves into the main body of andesite, and which leads to the enclaves consisting of a mixture of remelted andesite mixed with the basalt, as seen in the samples discussed here.

We model the crystal fraction of the basalt and the andesite as following laws of the form $X_s(T)$ and $X_b(T)$, so that the temperature above ($z>0$) and below ($z<0$) the interface ($z=0$) is given by the thermal diffusion equation

$$\left[\rho C_p + \rho L \frac{dX_i}{dT} \right] \frac{\delta T}{\delta t} = k_i \frac{\delta^2 T}{\delta z^2} \quad (1)$$

where i denotes the basaltic (b) or andesitic (s) melt and k_i is the thermal conductivity of the basalt or andesite. In modelling X_b and X_s we use the approximate linearised laws:

$$\begin{aligned} X_b(T) &= 0.02(1200 - T) \\ \text{and} \\ X_s(T) &= 0.035(972 - T) \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

obtained by linear approximation to calculations carried out using the program Melts (Ghiorso and Sack, 1995). Here $T_m = 972$ °C is the temperature at which the andesitic magma

is purely molten, with no crystal phase, while $T_b = 1200$ °C is the temperature at which the basalt is purely molten. These linearised relations are useful since they lead to analytical solutions for the thermal diffusion equation (1), as presented below.

In our calculations, we assume that the latent heat of crystallisation has value $L = 7.42 \times 10^5$ J/kg, with $\rho = 2500$ kg/m³ and $C_p = 1000$ J/K/kg. We assume the initial temperature of the basalt is $T_b = 1200$ °C on injection into the magma chamber, while the andesite has initial temperature $T_s = 835$ °C. Two pyroxene thermometry in mafic enclaves yields temperatures of 1,074–1,196° C (n = 5) (Humphreys et al., 2009b). QUILF (Andersen et al., 1993) used in single-pyroxene mode (Murphy et al., 2000) gave typical orthopyroxene phenocryst core temperatures of 800–900° C (average 850° C, n = 77). Phenocryst rims are typically slightly hotter (average 870° C, n = 61). Temperature estimates were also obtained using the hornblende- plagioclase geothermometer of (Holland and Blundy, 1994). One phenocryst pair gave a temperature of 844° C. The interface temperature, T_i between the basalt and the andesite is then given by the continuity of heat conduction across the interfaces. Using the above values for the properties of the melt, we find that the interface temperature is predicted to have value $T_i \sim 1008$ K $> T_m$ (see below), so that immediately above the interface the andesite is purely molten. The thermal diffusivity of the melt layer of andesite has value:

$$\kappa_m = \frac{k}{\rho C_p} \quad (3)$$

In contrast, in the basalt and the cooler region of the andesite, in which there is a crystal phase present, the effective thermal diffusivity accounts for the thermal buffering associated with the latent heat, leading to the relation

$$\kappa_i = \frac{\left[\rho C_p + \rho L \frac{dX_i}{dT} \right]}{\rho C_p} \quad (4)$$

for the basalt ($i = b$) and the silicic ($i = s$) melt when partially crystalline. With these three regions of partially crystalline basalt in the region $z < 0$, the molten andesite in the region 0

433 $z < a(t)$ and the partially molten andesite in the region $z > a(t)$, then prior to the onset
 434 of convection, we find the approximate diffusive temperature profile

$$435 \quad T(z, T) = T_I + (T_b - T_I) \operatorname{erf} \left[\frac{-z}{\sqrt{(\kappa_b t)}} \right] \text{ for } z < 0 \quad (5)$$

$$436 \quad T(z, T) = T_I + (T_m - T_I) \frac{\operatorname{erf} \left[\frac{z}{\sqrt{(\kappa_m t)}} \right]}{\operatorname{erf} \left[\frac{a(t)}{\sqrt{(\kappa_m t)}} \right]} \text{ for } a(t) > z > 0 \quad (6)$$

437

$$438 \quad T(z, T) = \frac{T_m \left(1 - \operatorname{erf} \left[\frac{z}{\sqrt{(\kappa_s t)}} \right] \right) - T_s \left(1 - \operatorname{erf} \left[\frac{a(t)}{\sqrt{(\kappa_s t)}} \right] - \operatorname{erf} \left[\frac{z}{\sqrt{(\kappa_s t)}} \right] \right)}{1 - \operatorname{erf} \left[\frac{a(t)}{\sqrt{(\kappa_s t)}} \right]} \text{ for } z > a(t) \quad (7)$$

439

440 where the interface temperature T_I is given by continuity of heat flux across the
 441 interface

442

$$443 \quad T_I = \frac{T_m + T_b \beta \operatorname{erf}(\lambda)}{1 + \beta \operatorname{erf}(\lambda)} \text{ where } \beta = \left(\frac{\kappa_m}{\kappa_b} \right)^{1/2} \text{ and } \lambda = \frac{a(t)}{(\kappa_m t)^{1/2}} \quad (8)$$

444

445 where the location of the pure melt front in the andesite, $z = a(t)$, is given by the solution for
 446 λ of the equation

447

$$448 \quad \gamma (1 + \beta \operatorname{erf}(\lambda)) \exp(-\lambda^2 \gamma^2) (T_m - T_s) = \exp(-\lambda^2) (1 - \operatorname{erf}(\lambda \gamma)) (T_b - T_m) \quad (9)$$

449

450 with

$$451 \quad \gamma = (\kappa_m - \kappa_s)^{1/2} \quad (10)$$

In **figure 6A**, we show a calculation of the structure of the thermal boundary layers across the interface, calculated after 1 and 10 days. After about 1 day, the thermal boundary layer extends about 10-20 cm into the andesite and basalt, while after 10 days, the boundary layer has grown to a thickness of >60 cm.

In calculating the potential for convective overturn within this boundary layer, we note three key effects. First, the andesite has a much reduced crystal fraction in the boundary layer leading to a reduction in the viscosity by a factor of 10-100, from values of order 10^5 to 10^6 Pa s, to 10^3 to 10^4 Pa s, while the viscosity of the basaltic layer increases from values of 10-100 Pa s to 10^3 to 10^4 Pa s in the cooled region of the boundary layer. Also as the basalt crystallises, it will tend to become saturated in volatiles at a particular crystal content. As volatiles are exsolved, the density of the basaltic melt gradually decreases. The decrease in density depends on the volatile content of the magma, but will typically be of order 10-150 kg/m³ (Phillips and Woods, 2002). The solubility of water in the melt can be approximated by Henry's law, $n_d = sP^{1/2}$ and so with a crystal content X the mass of exsolved volatiles is given by

$$n_e \sim n_0 - sP^{1/2}(1 - X) \quad (11)$$

where n_0 is the total volatile content of the basalt. This leads to an effective bulk density of the bubble-melt mixture given by

$$\rho = \left[\frac{n_e}{\rho_g} + \frac{1 - n_e}{\rho_m} \right] \quad (12)$$

where ρ_g and ρ_m are the gas and melt densities. With a total volatile mass fraction in the range $n_0 = 0.02 - 0.04$ and a crystal fraction in the range $X = 0.2 - 0.4$ the melt density is typically 10-200 kg/m³ lower than the andesite (**figure 6B**). These approximate calculations based on this simplified parameterised Henry's law with magma of total volatile content (mass fraction) 0.02 (green) and 0.04 (red) are consistent in magnitude with full numerical

calculations using Melts (Woods and Cowan, 2009). As this boundary layer of cooled basalt becomes less dense than the overlying boundary layer of heated andesite, plumes of the bubble-laden basalt will tend to rise into the boundary layer of andesite owing to a Rayleigh-Taylor type instability once the rate of growth of the instability exceeds the rate of growth of the boundary layer (Thomas et al., 1993). For a boundary layer of thickness $h(t)$, the growth rate of the instability, σ , scales as

$$\sigma \approx \frac{0.2g\Delta\rho h}{\mu_{sb}} \left(\frac{\mu_{sb}}{\mu_{bb}} \right)^{1/3} \quad (13)$$

where μ_{sb} denotes the viscosity in the boundary layer of magma i , where $i = s$ or b . This exceeds the growth rate of the boundary layer, $\left(\frac{1}{h} \right) \frac{dh}{dt}$, which is driven by thermal conduction, $h \approx (\kappa_b t)^{1/2}$, when

$$\frac{0.5g\Delta\rho h^3}{\kappa_b \mu_{sb}} \left(\frac{\mu_{sb}}{\mu_{bb}} \right)^{1/3} > 1 \quad (14)$$

At this point, plumes of the cooled basalt will rise and mingle with the heated boundary layer of partially molten andesite. In **figure 6C**, we present an estimate of the thickness of the boundary layer at the point that this convective mingling is expected to become established and dominate the heat conduction within the boundary layer. Using the values for the reduced viscosity of the heated andesite, and values of the buoyancy of the basalt ranging from 50-150 kg/m³ (**figure 6C**), we estimate that the size of unstable boundary layer and hence the plumes of basalt which will mingle with the heated andesite are of order 3-6 cm, corresponding to times of order 0.1-1 days. Subsequently, as the boundary layer continues to deepen by heat conduction into the overlying andesite and the underlying hot basalt, the layer of mixed basalt and heated andesite will rise up into the cooler overlying andesite, once the rate of ascent of buoyant plumes through this cooler andesite is comparable to the rate of deepening of the boundary layer. Using comparable values for the buoyancy, but with the original viscosity of the crystalline andesite, 10⁶ to 10⁷ Pas, we estimate that such plumes will rise into the original andesite when the mixed layer has deepened to a scale of 10-25 cm, and

so will emerge from the boundary layer after the longer time of order 1-10 days. We therefore envisage a two-stage process of convective intermingling within the boundary layer, followed by the ascent of intermingled plumes from the boundary layer into the overlying andesite. We also observe that if the upper layer of andesite is sufficiently crystalline, then the crystal-crystal contacts may lead to the development of a yield stress in the upper layer, and this will tend to suppress the ascent of plumes of buoyant melt into the main upper body of andesite, whereas in the heated boundary layer, the crystal content will fall to lower values, thereby reducing or eliminating this yield stress in the boundary layer itself. This additional effect will again tend to promote an initial phase of local mixing in the boundary layer, and provided the yield stress in the upper layer is not too large, this could then be followed by the ascent of the mixed plumes into the upper layer once the buoyancy force associated with the mixed layer exceeds the yield stress associated with the main body of andesite. Estimates of yield stress in a crystalline magma suggest that it depends on the crystal shape and crystal mass fraction (Hoover et al., 2001; Saar et al., 2001), but to allow mafic inclusions of size 0.1 m and buoyancy 100 kg/m³ to rise through the melt, it should not exceed values of order 100 Pa, which is at the low end of the range. For larger values of yield stress, it may be that the ascent of convective plumes into the upper layer would be restricted, further promoting the mixing in the heated boundary layer. In that case, some limited intermingling of the hybrid boundary layer into the overlying melt, and generation of mafic inclusions, might occur during an eruptive phase, if the upper layer becomes mobilized by the larger scale stresses driving the eruption. It is also relevant to note here that as bubbles are exsolved from the basalt, the boundary layer in the basalt becomes less dense than the underlying basalt, and hence stable to convective mixing into the main body of basalt (Cardoso and Woods, 1996).

Conclusions

Mafic enclaves erupted with crystal-rich andesite during the 1995-2011 eruption of Soufrière Hills Volcano, Montserrat, display compositions and geochemical trends consistent with their derivation at the interface between a basalt layer and an overlying andesite layer (**figure 7**). The linear trends in major and trace element geochemistry of the mafic enclaves suggest that they are formed by mixing between an end member tholeiitic basalt and the overlying andesite, with the end member basalt changing in composition over time through the eruption: becoming more primitive during phases I and III, then less primitive towards the end of the eruption in phase V (**figure 5**). We propose that underplating vapor-saturated mafic magma cools at the interface, and mixing with semi-molten andesite occurs in the

interface zone. The interface zone then becomes buoyant during cooling, mixing and vesiculation and breaks off to form plumes, which rise into the overlying andesite. The mafic enclaves become more primitive during phases I to III, which might be interpreted as being due to quasi-continuous intrusion of increasingly primitive basalt from depth; it is certainly not consistent with the continuous evolution of a basalt layer emplaced at the beginning of the eruption which then evolves by cooling and crystallisation. After phase III, mafic enclaves become more hybridised and larger, consistent with the cessation of intrusion of mafic magma from depth, allowing the thermal diffusion front to migrate further into the basalt, generating a thicker mixed boundary layer from which the enclaves form. It is worthy of note that, from the analytical model we develop here, the timescales required to generate a boundary layer of thickness similar to the dimension of mafic enclaves (decimetres) is on the order of 1-10 days, which is similar to the timescales derived from diffusion profiles in reverse-zoned phenocrysts and in Fe-Ti oxides both at Soufrière Hills (Devine et al., 1998) and globally (Cooper and Kent, 2014). Quasi-continuous magma intrusion during 1995-2008 is consistent with continued high fluxes of SO₂ from Soufrière Hills (Edmonds et al., 2010) and inflation of the volcano between eruptive phases (Elsworth et al., 2008).

Our analysis demonstrates that trends in mafic enclave geochemistry through an eruption might yield insights into basalt underplating and its role in eruption triggering. The apparent cessation of the eruption after phase V suggests that mafic magma intrusion may have played a critical role in sustaining the eruption by heating and remobilising the overlying andesite (Couch et al., 2001) and furthermore, this process and mechanism may be important at many other arc volcanoes globally.

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Table and figures

<i>Phase I</i>	<i>Phase II</i>	<i>Phase III</i>	<i>Phase IV</i>	<i>Phase V</i>
Nov. 95 – Mar. 98	Nov. 99 – Jul. 03	Aug. 05 – Apr. 07	Jul. 08 – Jan. 09	Oct. 09 – Feb. 10

Table 1: Soufrière Hills Volcano (Montserrat) eruption phases (Wadge et al., 2014).

Figure 1: A: Map of Montserrat showing the location of the Soufrière Hills Volcano. B: photomicrograph of a mafic inclusion, showing a typical diktytaxitic texture made up of

blocky plagioclase and dark brown amphibole crystals. Light brown glass surrounds the crystals. C: photomicrograph of the interface between crystal-rich andesite (top) and mafic inclusion (bottom). Orthopyroxene and magnetite are visible in the mafic enclave. The andesite has a highly crystalline groundmass. D: an image of a typical andesitic block on outcrop scale with mafic enclaves from phase V block and ash deposits in the Belham Valley, Montserrat.

Figure 2: Major element compositions of whole rock lavas (solid circles) and glasses (crosses) from the Soufrière Hills eruption, phases I to V (see legend) (Barclay et al., 2010; Mann et al., 2013; Murphy et al., 2000; Plail et al., 2014; Zellmer, 2003). Also shown are lava compositions from South Soufrière Hills (Cassidy et al., 2015). A: MgO versus SiO₂, in wt%; B: Al₂O₃ versus SiO₂, in wt%; C: CaO versus SiO₂, in wt%; D: K₂O versus SiO₂, in wt% and E: FeO_{tot}/MgO versus SiO₂, in wt%. Tholeiite (TH) and calc-alkaline (CA) fields are marked. Fractional crystallisation trends from Rhyolite Melts (Ghiorso and Gualda, 2015) are shown.

Figure 3: Trace element plot to show lava compositions from phases 1 to V of the Soufrière Hills Volcano eruption. Data from this work and from Zellmer (2003). Trace element compositions normalised to primitive mantle (*Sun and McDonough, 1989*).

Figure 4: Trace element compositions of whole rock lavas from the Soufrière Hills eruption, phases I to V (see legend) from this work and Zellmer [2003]. A: Dy versus La, in ppm; B: Yb versus La, in ppm; C: V versus La, in ppm; D: Sc versus La, in ppm; E: Sr versus La, in ppm. Vectors to show the effect of 20% fractionation of various crystal phases are shown (for method and partition coefficients used see **Supplementary Material**). Mixing lines are shown on the V vs La plot, showing the amount of mixing required to form the array of mafic enclaves for mixing between an end member basalt and the most evolved andesite bulk composition. To generate the most Si-rich mafic enclave erupted in phase V requires mixing 67% andesite and 33% basalt; fits and residuals for each element are given in **Supplementary Table 3**.

Figure 5: Box and whisker plots to show Mg/Fe and V/La over the five phases of the eruption. The box is bounded by the 75th and 25th quartile values, with a horizontal line through the box denoting the median. Whiskers show the minimum and maximum values.

Mafic enclave compositions are shown in blue; andesite in red. Below is a timeline to show when eruptive phases occurred and interpretative labelling (see main text discussion for justification).

Figure 6: A model to describe the interaction between basalt magma and overlying andesite. A: Thermal profile across the boundary between basalt and andesite after 1 and 10 days; B: how the buoyancy (density difference between the boundary layer and the overlying andesite) varies during cooling and crystallisation, for two water contents (2 and 4 wt%); C: the variation of the scale of the plume rising from the boundary layer with viscosity of the boundary layer magma, for various boundary layer buoyancy values. A more buoyant boundary layer is expected to form smaller mafic enclaves.

Figure 7: Schematic diagram to illustrate the controls on mafic enclave composition and how it may evolve with time. Left: vapor-saturated mafic magma (basalt) underplates a reservoir of crystal-rich andesite containing a range of crystal phases (pl: plagioclase; opx: orthopyroxene; am: amphibole). An initially thin hybrid boundary layer forms as the basalt quench-cools and crystallises while the andesite partially melts, allowing them to mix in this layer. Middle: When the buoyancy of the layer is sufficient buoyant plumes form at the interface, which rise into the heated lower viscosity layer of andesite and form mafic enclaves, which may be stirred into the heated andesite and which have a dimension similar to the thickness of the boundary layer. Quenched-rim basaltic mafic inclusions are among the first to break off from the interface. Composite enclaves may form from hybrid material surrounded by more mafic material as the latter rises up in the wake of boundary layer break-up. Initially the proportion of mafic material is small (~1 vol% (Barclay et al., 2010)). Right: if the intrusion of mafic magma is shut off and the basalt cools, the boundary layer will grow by thermal diffusion, the mafic enclaves will become larger, and there will be a higher volume proportion of mafic enclaves in the erupted lavas, as has been observed (Barclay et al., 2010).

<i>Phase I</i>	<i>Phase II</i>	<i>Phase III</i>	<i>Phase IV</i>	<i>Phase V</i>
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Table 1: Soufrière Hills Volcano (Montserrat) eruption phases (Wadge et al., 2014).

Figure 1

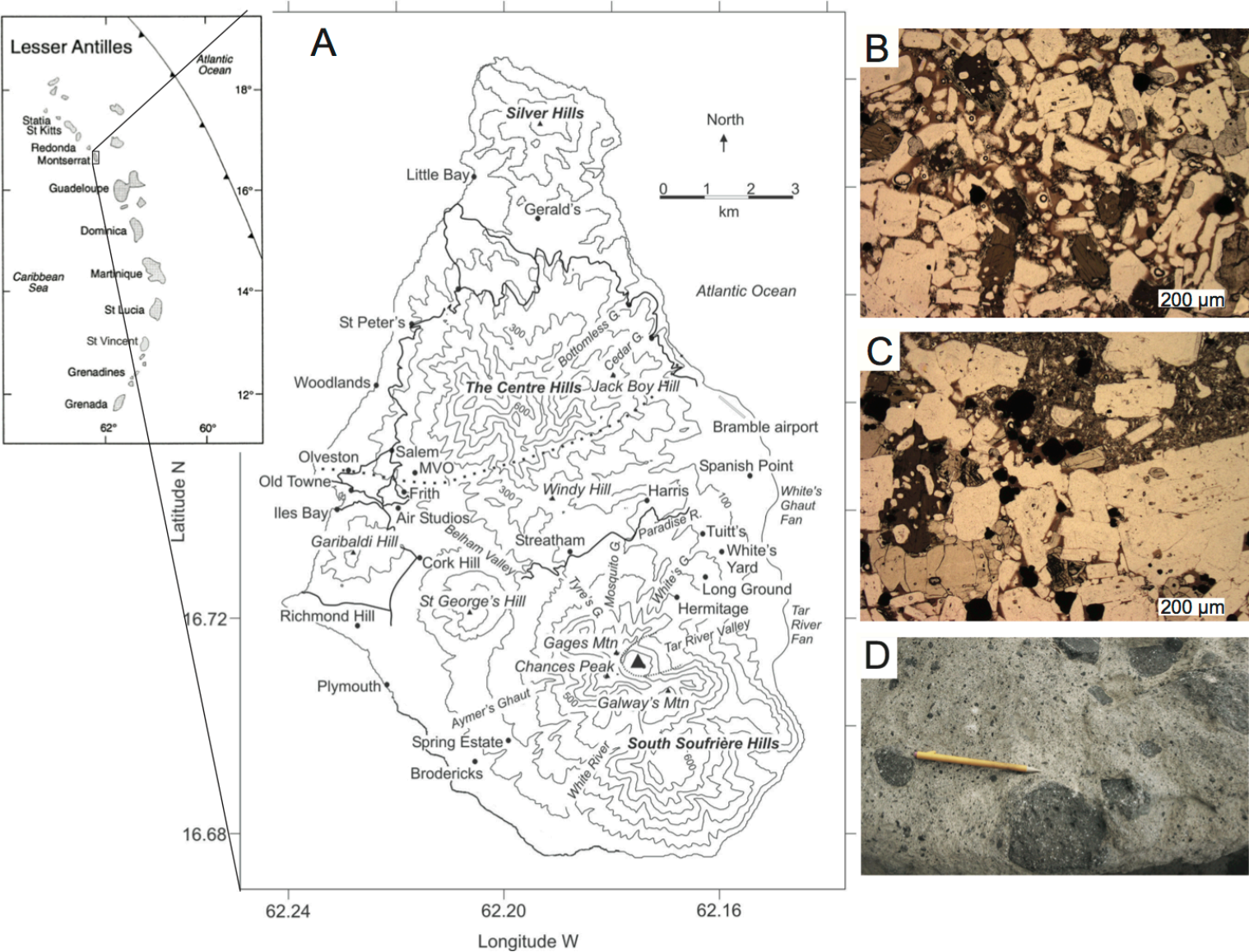


Figure 2

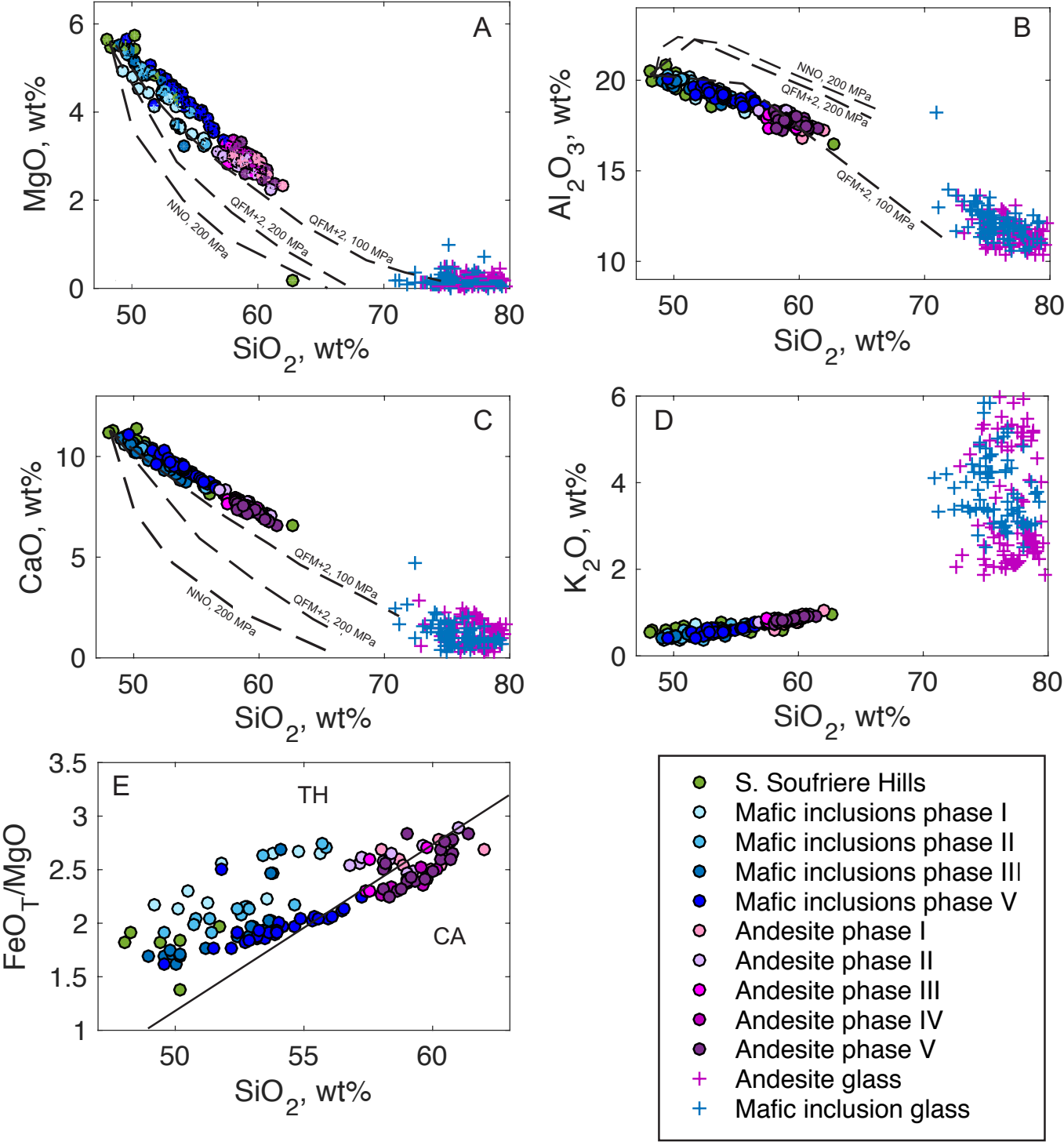


Figure 3

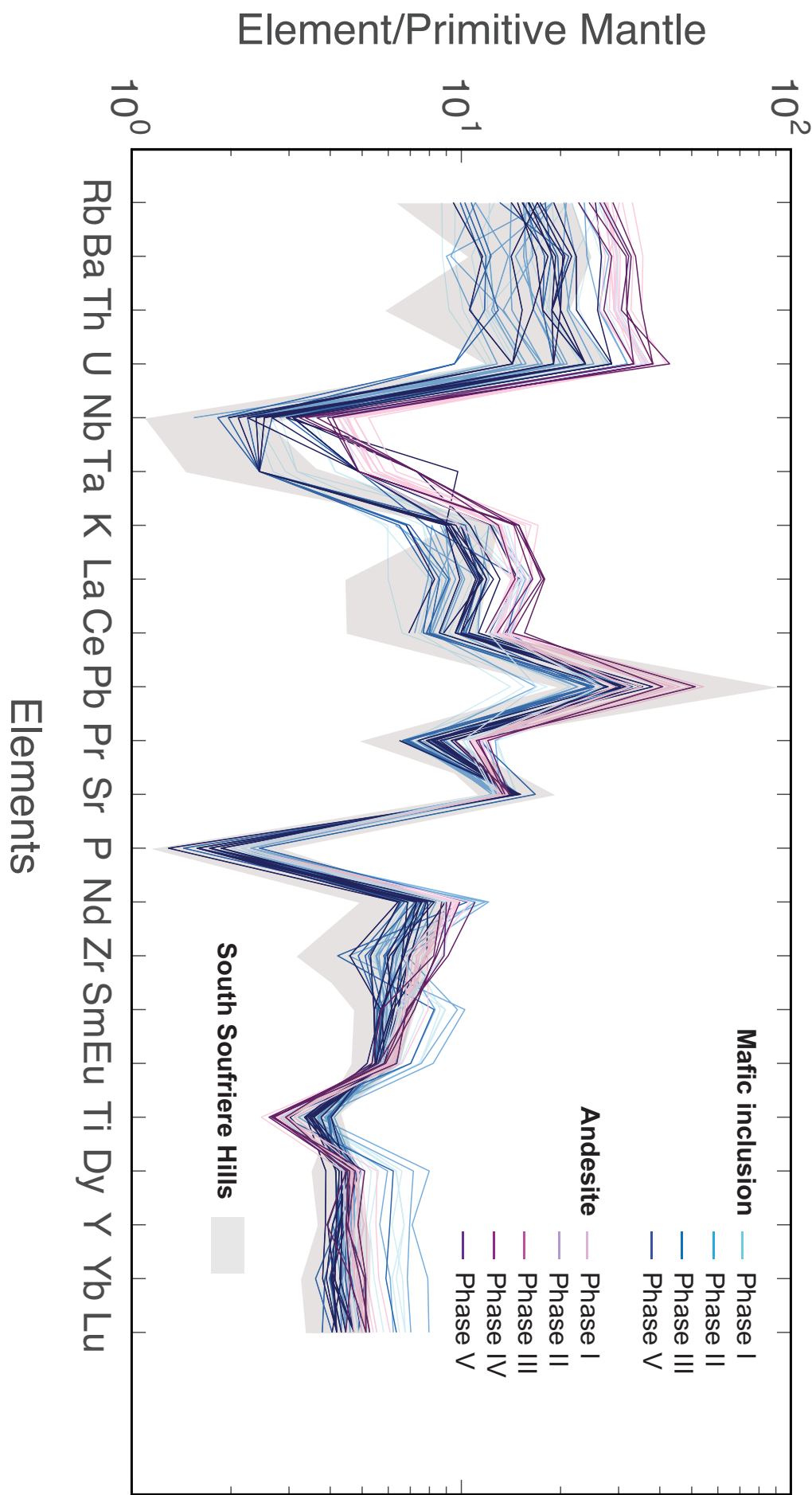


Figure 4

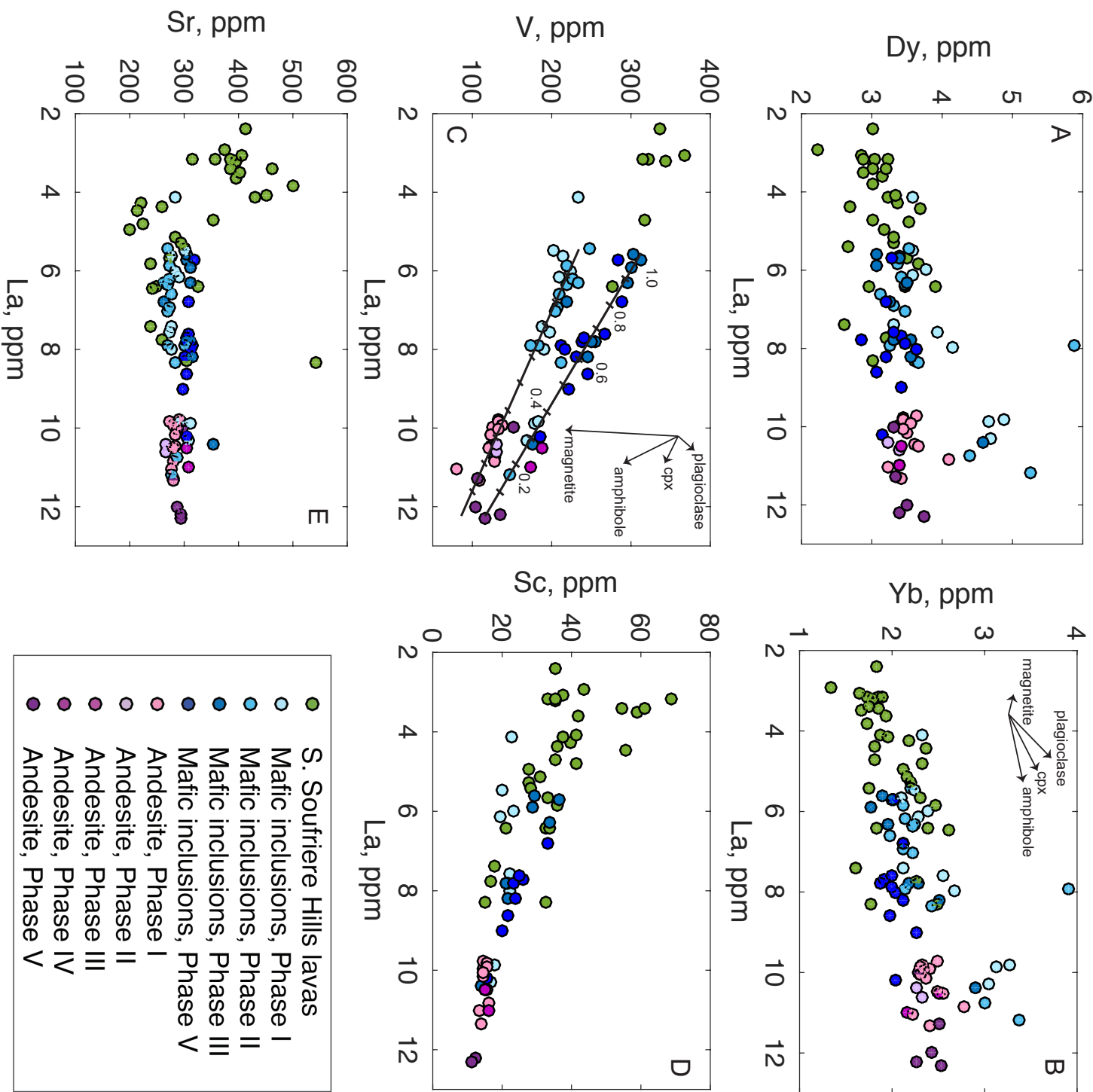


Figure 5

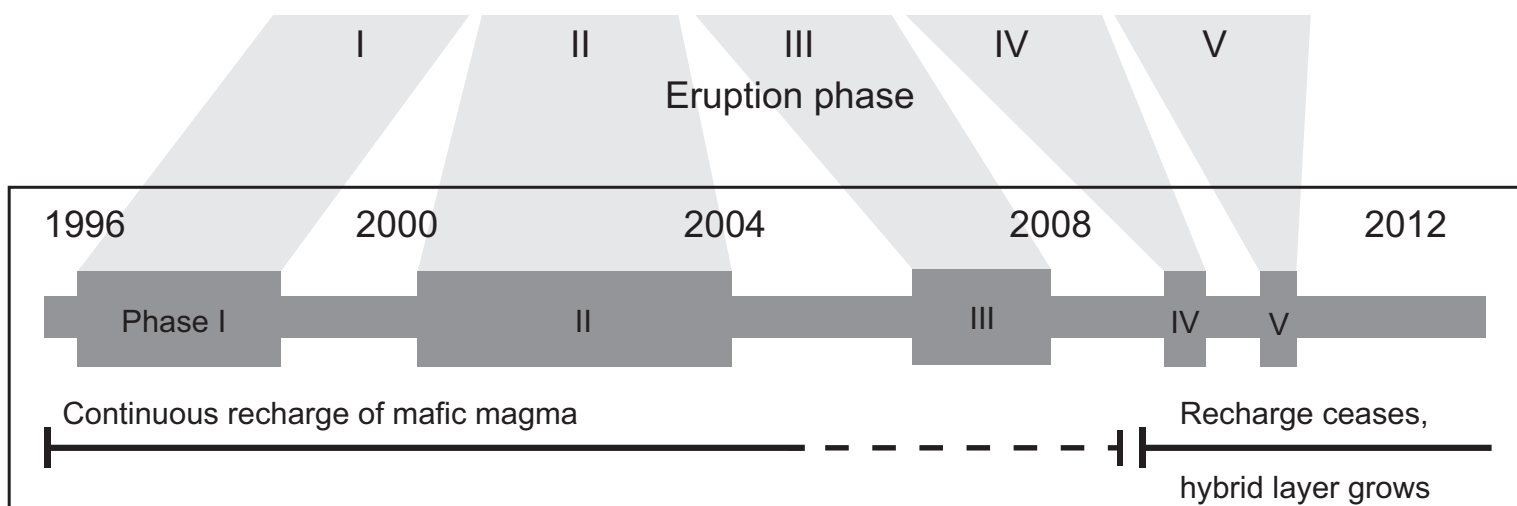
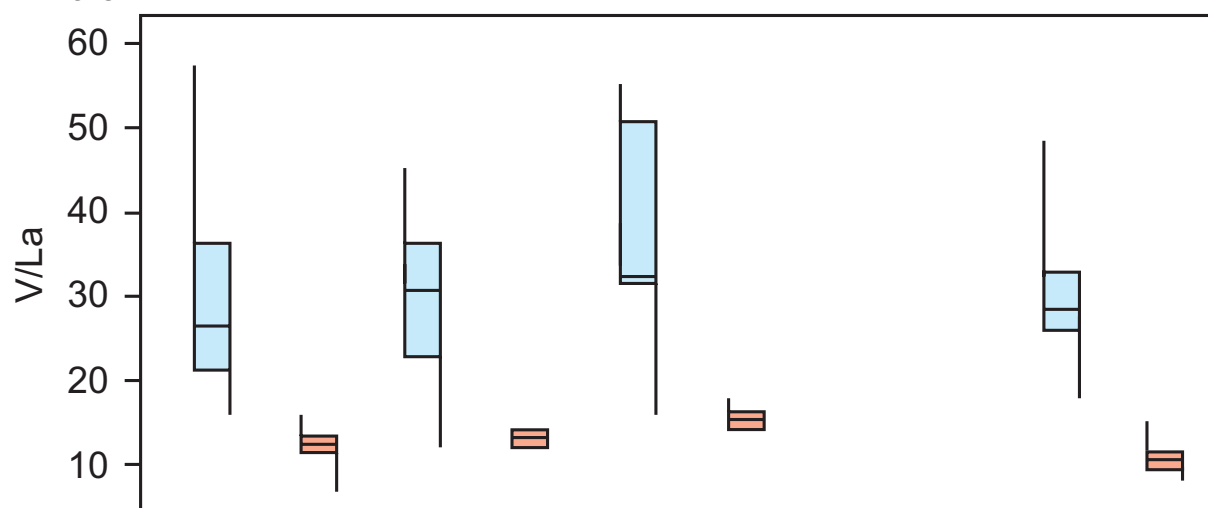
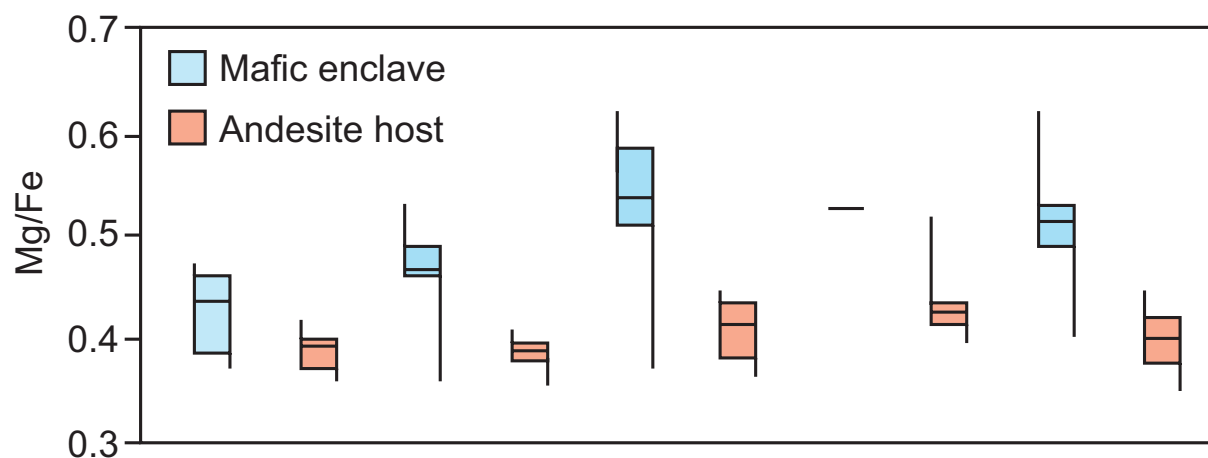
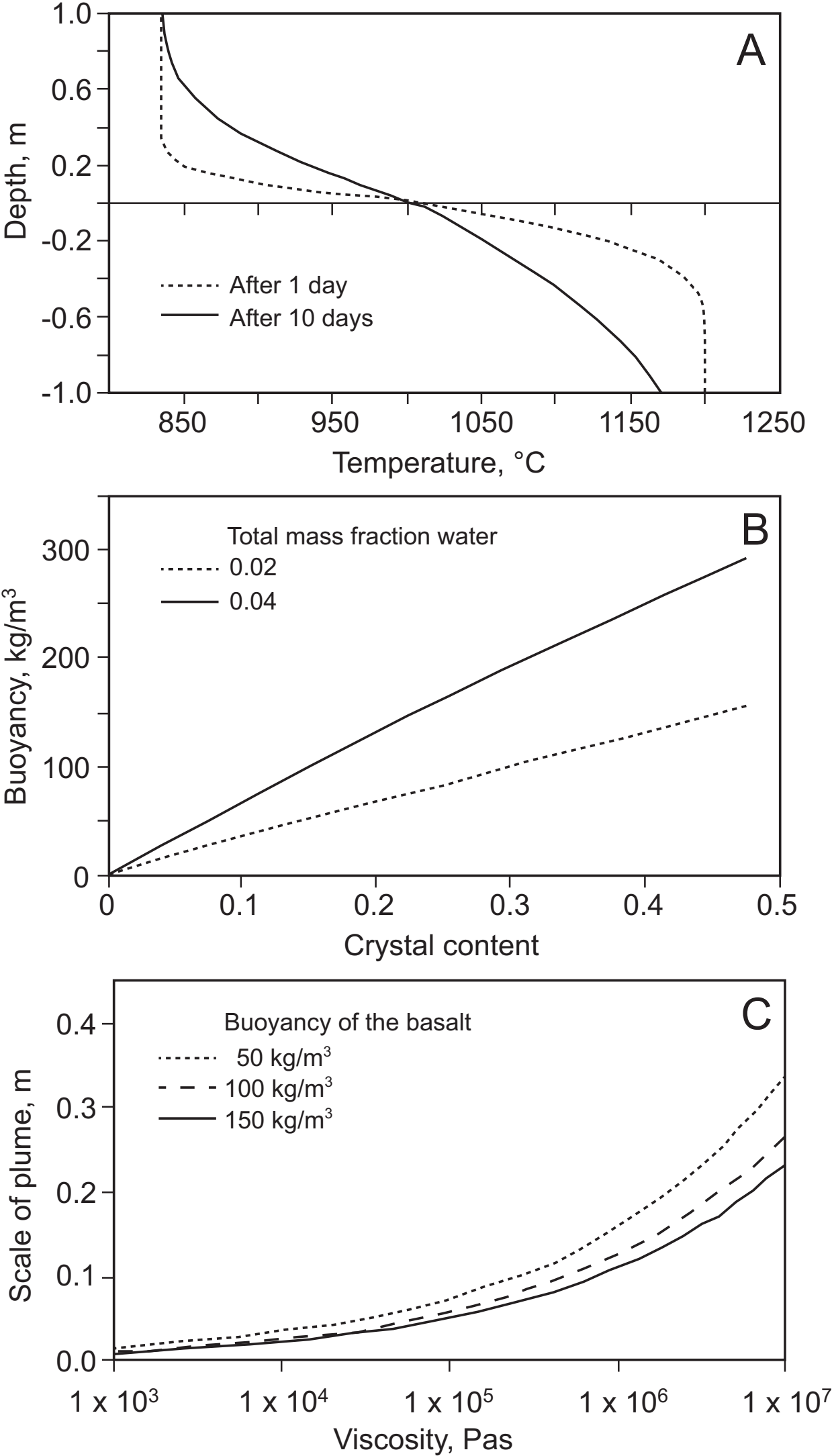


Figure 6



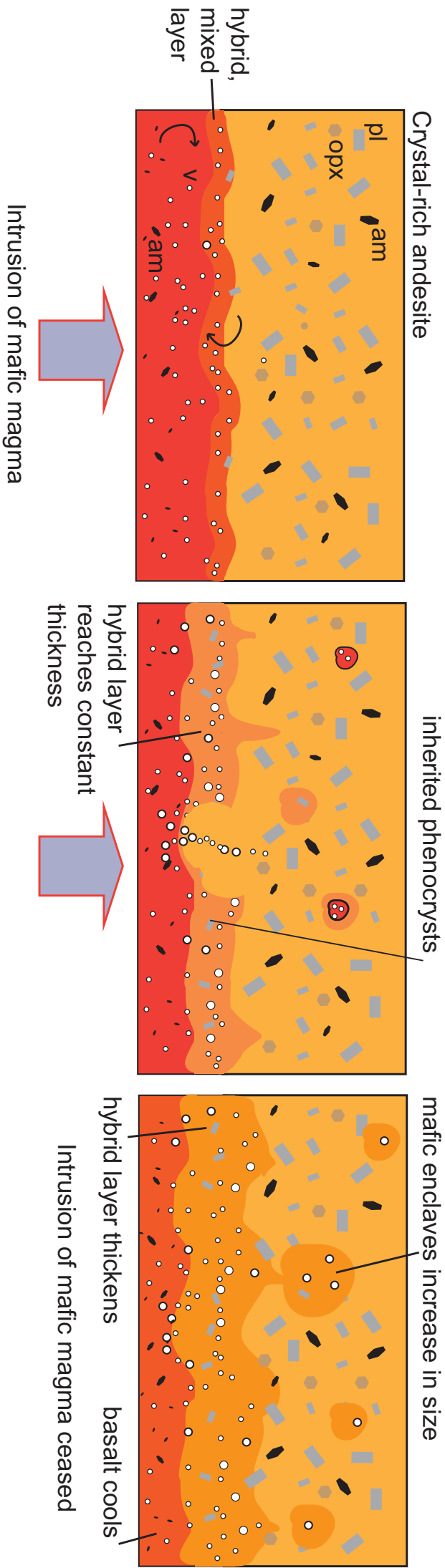


Figure 7